

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 07952 170332Z

63

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-04 DRC-01 /272 W

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R 170019Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5386

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 7952

FROM US DEL LOS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJ: LOS: FISHERIES

1. MCKERNAN SCHONING, ITO, MATSUURA, AND YONEZAWA MET ON AUGUST
9. ITO, FORMER DIRECTOR FISHERIES AGENCY AND VICE MINISTER,
EXPRESSED CONTINUING KEEN INTEREST IN FISHERIES MATTER AND
MENTIONED HIS STATURE AND POSSIBLE INFLUENCE AS AN EIGHT-YEAR
MEMBER OF THE LOWE HOUSE OF THE DIET. HE IS ANXIOUS TO ELIMINATE
PROBLEMS AND COOPERATE.

2. ITO EXPLAINED SALMON IS VERY IMPORTANT TO JAPAN
AND HIGHLY POLITICAL. HE BELIEVES IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE A
BIG PUBLIC ISSUE OF IT AS CARACAS AND THAT REFERENCE TO ANADRO-
MOUS (SALMON) SPECIES SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE CONVENTION.
INSTEAD, JAPAN AND U.S. CAN AND SHOULD WORK IT OUT BILATERALLY.
U.S. REPS. REMINDED HIM OF DOMESTIC PROBLEMS THAT HAVE ARISEN
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PAGE 02 CARACA 07952 170332Z

BY FAILING TO GET AGREEMENT ON BRISTOL BAY THIS YEAR. FURTHER,

THAT MUCH OF GOJ PRESENT SALMON FISHERY ON NORTH AMERICAN STOCKS IS INSIDE 200 MILES OF U.S. TERRITORY.

3 ITO IS INTERESTED IN VISITING BRISTOL BAY, ALASKA IN THE SUMMER FISHING SEASON OF 1975 OR 1976 ON A PERSONAL INTEREST BASIS.

4. IT WAS EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS GROWING SUPPORT IN U.S. CONGRESS FOR COASTAL NATION CONTROL OF FISHERIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHELF. THE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE HEARINGS HIGH-LIGHTS ON S1988 (EXTENDED JURISDICTION) WAS REVIEWED. DESPITE URGING BY RUSH, MOORE, MCKERNAN WHITE AND POLLOCK AT HEARINGS, SENATORS MAGNUSSON AND STEVENS HAVE MADE STRONG STATEMENTS SINCE TOWARD MOVING THE BILL OUT OF THE SENATE TO INDICATE TO THOSE ATTENDING THE LOS MEETING IN CARACAS THAT THE U.S. CONGRES FEELS STRONGLY ABOUT THE NEED FOR POSITIVE ACTION TO PROTECT DEPLETED FISHERIES RESOURCES BEING FISHED OFF OUR COAST BY FOREIGN NATIONS. FURTHER, THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO URGE FUNDING THE NEEDED ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT EFFORT.

5. THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY JAPANESE COOPERATION IN GETTING REALISTIC MANAGEMENT CONTROL OVER THE SALMON AND GROUND FISH FISHERIES IN THE NORTH PACIFIC WAS EMPHASIZED.

6. U.S. CONCERN ABOUT SEVERAL FISHERIES MATTERS WAS REVIEWED WITH MATSUURA. THESE INVOLVE MATTERS OF INTEREST TO HIM IN HIS NEW CAPACITY AS INPFC COMMISSIONER REPLACING OHBA AND AT FORTH-COMING INPFC ANNUAL MEETING AND BILATERAL FISHERIES RE-NEGOTIATIONS THIS WINTER. THEY INCLUDED NEED FOR MORE ACCURATE CATCH STATISTICS FROM THE JAPANESE; INCIDENTS OF VIOLATION IN 1974 OF ABSTENTION LINE AND VOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS BY JAPAN FISHING CLOSED AREA; IMPORTANCE OF JAPANESE FOLLOW-UP ATTENTION TO MEANINGFUL REDUCTION IN INCIDENTAL HALIBUT CATCH IN EASTERN BERING SEA AND GULF OF ALASKA; IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN AND U.S. TO HAVE U.S. OBSERVERS ABOARD JAPANESE TRAVEL VESSELS TO DOCUMENT INCIDENTAL CRAB AND HALIBUT CATCHES AND ALLAY CHARGES OF MIS-REPRESENTATION; U.S. CONCERN OVER VERY LARGE (105 MILLION) INCIDENTAL TANNER CRAB CATCH IN TRAWL FISHER IN 1973.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 CARACA 07952 170332Z

7. DISCUSSIONS INDICATED ITO NOT FULLY AWARE OF INTENSITY OF POLITICAL FEELING TOWARDS GREATER COASTAL STATE CONTROL OVER FISHERIES IN U.S. AND WAS INCLINED TO VASTLY UNDERESTIMATE CHANCES FOR UNILATERAL U.S. ACTION. NOR DID HE SEEM AWARE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF SOME MOVE BY THE GOJ HERE IN CARACAS AND IN NORTH PACIFIC WHICH MIGHT PREVENT FURTHER DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN U.S. AND GOJ RESULTING FROM LOS OR ACTION BY U.S. CONGRESS.

STEVENSON

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